

**Remarks**

This REPLY is in response to the Office Action mailed February 21, 2008. No additional fee is due with this communication.

**I. Summary of Examiner's Rejections**

In the Office Action mailed April 03, 2008 Claims 1, 3-4, 49, 53-54, 57-58, 62, 67, 69-70, 75, 77-78, 84-85, 87-88, 92-93, and 95-96 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hotti et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,970,876, hereafter Hotti) in view of Golshani et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,806,066, hereafter Golshani). Claims 2-3, 5-6, 29-30, 56-57, 59-60, 68-69, 71-72, 75, 77, 79-80, 86-87, 89-90, 94-95, and 97-98 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hotti, in view of Golshani, and further in view of Wotring et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,665,677, hereafter Wotring).

**II. Summary of Applicant's Amendment**

The present Reply amends Claims 1, 6, 53, 60, 67, 72, 75, 80, 84, 90, 92, and 98, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 1-6, 49, 53-54, 56-60, 62, and 67-99. Reconsideration of the Application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

**III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

In the Office Action mailed April 03, 2008 Claims 1, 3-4, 49, 53-54, 57-58, 62, 67, 69-70, 75, 77-78, 84-85, 87-88, 92-93, and 95-96 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hotti (U.S. Patent Number 6,970,876) in view of Golshani (U.S. Patent Number 5,806,066). Claims 2-3, 5-6, 29-30, 56-57, 59-60, 68-69, 71-72, 75, 77, 79-80, 86-87, 89-90, 94-95, and 97-98 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hotti, in view of Golshani, and further in view of Wotring (U.S. Patent Number 6,665,677).

**Claim 1**

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the embodiment therein. As amended, Claim 1 defines:

1. *(Currently Amended) A method of managing a virtual content repository (VCR) that represents a plurality of content repositories, the method comprising:*

*creating a content node for each of the plurality of content repositories and associating each content node with its own content schema, wherein each of the plurality of content repositories includes content that is unique from content in the other content repositories;*

*creating a hierarchy of hierarchy nodes in the VCR, and for each hierarchy node indicating a location of the hierarchy node in the hierarchy by an identifier, relating the hierarchy node to a different type of content, associating the hierarchy node with one or more content nodes, and associating the hierarchy node with its own hierarchy schema;*

*storing the hierarchy and content nodes in the VCR, resulting in storing each hierarchy and content schema in one of the plurality of content repositories; and*

*presenting the plurality of content repositories associated with the VCR as a single content repository to an application program interface wherein each of the hierarchy schemas and content schemas remain associated with their respective hierarchy nodes and content nodes.*

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define a method of managing a virtual content repository (VCR) that represents a plurality of content repositories. The method comprises creating a content node for each of the plurality of content repositories and associating each content node with its own content schema. Each of the plurality of content repositories includes content that is unique from content in the other content repositories. The method also comprises creating a hierarchy of hierarchy nodes in the VCR, and for each hierarchy node indicating a location of the hierarchy node in the hierarchy by an identifier, relating the hierarchy node to a different type of content, associating the hierarchy node with one or more content nodes, and associating the hierarchy node with its own hierarchy schema. The method further comprises storing the hierarchy and content nodes in the VCR, resulting in storing each hierarchy and content schema in one of the plurality of content repositories and presenting the plurality of content repositories associated with the VCR as a single content repository to an application program interface wherein the hierarchy and content schemas remain associated with their respective hierarchy and content nodes.

Hotti discloses a management of distributed databases, and a method and arrangement associated with managing database schemas and configuration of software that uses those schemas. (Abstract). Application master database node 202 and replica database nodes 212,

222 form a distributed system, wherein the application replica database nodes can maintain a full or partial copy (replica) of the application master database servers' data. (Fig. 2A; Column 6, lines 6-10). Hotti also discloses a hierachic system where several database systems a, b, c have their respective schema management nodes, 931a, 931b and 931c which manage the schemas of the respective database nodes. (Column 9, lines 18-21). The database systems have a common configuration management node 931 for managing schemas and application configuration of all database systems a, b and c. The configuration management nodes 931a, 931b and 931c of the individual database systems are thus replicas of the main configuration node 931. (Column 9, lines 18-27; Fig. 9)

As described above Hotti appears to disclose several management nodes which are replicas of a main management node. Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define that each of the plurality of different content repositories includes content that is unique from content in the other content repositories. In Hotti, each management node is a *replica* of a main management node. Therefore, each node cannot include content that is *unique* from content in the other nodes. Applicant respectfully submits that Hotti in view of Golshani does not disclose or render obvious the embodiment of Claim 1, as amended.

Golshani discloses a method for integrating the schemas of a plurality of independent and heterogeneous database management systems of a distributed database management system. (Abstract). The present invention is a software tool, or method, that generates and preserves an integrated global schema, which enables the user to present queries against a single global schema (that represents in a coherent manner all the desired data objects in all of the participating databases and all the relationships among the data objects) without any concern about where the data may come from or its physical environment. (Column 2, lines 20-27). Fig. 10 is the flow chart of module VII denoted by a Roman numeral VII in a circle in Fig. 10a, which integrates two object-oriented schemas and generates an object-oriented schema representing the integration of the two given schemas. (Column 7, lines 33-37). The output of module VII is a file containing the object-oriented description of the integrated schema. (Column 7, lines 38-40). Object classes between two schemas are merged using the merge operator. This operator merges two objects, each from a different schema based on assertions made on the attributes of those objects (Column 7, lines 44-47). Object classes within the same schema are folded together using the fold operator. The fold operator allows a general object to absorb a more specific object. (Column 7, lines 48-50).

Golshani appears to disclose integrating multiple databases into a single database by creating a single global schema. Similar object classes from each database are merged or folded into one object class. This global schema can then be used by an application to access the database. By contrast, in Claim 1, as amended, the hierarchy and content schemas remain associated with their respective hierarchy and content nodes. Applicant respectfully submits that Hotti in view of Golshani does not disclose or render obvious this feature.

In view of the above comments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1, as currently amended, is neither anticipated by nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

#### **Claims 53, 67, 75, 84, and 92**

The comments provided above with respect to Claim 1 are hereby incorporated by reference. Claims 53, 67, 75, 84, and 92 have been similarly amended to more clearly define the embodiments therein. For similar reasons as provided above with respect to Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 53, 67, 75, 84, and 92, as amended, are likewise neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

#### **Claims 2-6, 49, 54, 56-60, 62, 68-74, 76-82, 85-91, and 93-99**

Claims 2-6, 49, 54, 56-60, 62, 68-74, 76-82, 85-91, and 93-99 have not been addressed separately but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim, and further in view of the comments provided above. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 2-6, 49, 54, 56-60, 62, 68-74, 76-82, 85-91, and 93-99, are similarly neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

#### **VIII. Conclusion**

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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